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MS. DANN: My name is Carrie Dann. I'm a

12

native of this valley. The Western Shoshone people,

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especially my family, has lived in this valley for tens of

14

thousands of years, from time immemorial.

15

I have seen this valley, the areas through

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here, being destroyed in the name of economy, progress,

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you name it. We had the geysers down here destroyed by a

18

geothermal power plant. First real obvious destruction to

19

my culture, to my beliefs.

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Then the mining came in. They, too,

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destroyed my culture, and my beliefs.

22

Then we also have proposed for this valley a

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Falcon Condor power line which will lay in this valley.

24

We also have this nuclear rail train that is being

25

proposed to come through this valley.

1

What are you going to do next to destroy me?

2

What are you going to do next to destroy my culture, to

3

destroy my beliefs?

1...

4

To put a waste site -- a waste dump, nuclear

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waste dump down at Yucca Mountain, I can't see that. Man

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created that waste. Why is man returning that waste to

7

our mother earth? Why don't you take care of it is? It's

8

your creation.

9

Neutralize it somehow some way. | You are

10

sending men up to the moon, Mars. Where are you going

11

next? Can't we stay here? Can't you stay here and

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neutralize the nuclear waste so that it would be free that

13 we wouldn't have to be afraid, our children wouldn't have
14 to go through mutations or whatever, all these nuclear
15 things cause?

16 We all know, especially -- I know some
17 ranchers have seen it as much as I have, but I have seen
18 deformity in calves. Bad sometimes. It depends on the
19 year. However, since the nuclear test ban, it's not as
20 obvious as it used to be.

21 We also hear mutations can happen. You guys
22 don't tell us that.

23 I do expect some kind of changes in the
24 atmosphere. I have seen it. In my lifetime, living here,
25 in this valley, I have seen the temperature rise from 36
1 below zero to what did we have last year? Nothing. Not
2 even below zero. Four above zero.

3 All these years there's changes that is
4 happening. We don't have to be a nuclear scientist to see
5 these things.

6 I would like to see for this valley, or any
7 other valley, or any of these rail systems they propose,
8 that you people, DOE, spend all the money that they are
9 spending down at Yucca Mountain to neutralize all of that
10 thing that you want to bury down there. You're giving
11 nothing to our future generations, that is to the humans,
12 to the animals, all life.

13 I think life is so precious to all of us.
14 Why do we have to contaminate it? There is so much
15 contamination in this world already, and we're still doing
16 more.

17 As indigenous person, I do not look at the
18 economy, the progress, the way you people do. I look at
19 the earth as a giver of life.

20 We see this thing being destroyed. We see it
21 being destroyed down at the test site, and Yucca Mountain
22 is going to be no different.

23 I see the water as a giver of life. I'm sure
24 this is being destroyed down at the test site, and I'm
25 sure it's going to happen in Yucca Mountain.

1 I see our air is being contaminated. As
2 Corbin said earlier, from the test site where you are
3 putting all this low level nuclear waste, the wind comes
4 along, picks it up, who knows where it's deposited at?

5 I think that if we cannot control the things
6 that we have created, then those things should not be
7 created at all. If we value this earth upon which we live
8 as important, then we shouldn't create these things that's
9 going to destroy it.

10 I don't only look at humans as a form of
11 life; we have birds, we have eagles, we have falcons, we
12 have sagehens. All of these things enjoy this earth. The
13 deer, everything. They have a right to enjoy this as we
14 have.

15 Just because they cannot come out here and
16 talk to you, they're nothing, unless if you can go shoot
17 them for sports maybe, then they become something.

18 Life today is based on how much money and
19 where we can make that money. And I am sure that the

20 State of Nevada is not going to get its share of the money
21 to study all of this stuff that's going on.

22 But my recommendation to DOE, even, too, I
23 was going to say - and I don't know if it would be bad to
24 say it, so maybe I better not say it - but I do look at
25 congressional people sometimes as spineless, because you
1 have to stand on principles. If you don't have
2 principles, then you have nothing.

3 Western Shoshone people do have a treaty with
4 United States. I don't know if that means anything. But
5 I do remember reading somewhere in the United States
6 Constitution that it is the supreme law of the land.

7 I see today, we as indigenous people, we're
8 overlooked, we're stepped on. Then they tell us, well,
9 you know, here is your culture things, you know. You
10 shouldn't pick them. It's against the law to pick them.

11 Why shouldn't it be against the law? Why
12 shouldn't the law somehow say that as indigenous people,
13 our rights are just as important as your rights?

14 I see in one of these volumes that you have
15 over here that it talks about U.S. v. Dann. I guess I'm
16 that Dann that they talk about in there.

17 But the fact remains, no court in the United
18 States has ever addressed Western Shoshone land issues.
19 All they say is that we took it from you and we're going
20 to give you 15 cents an acre. That's what we get. Is
21 this democracy? What is it?

22 Maybe we go back to the time Columbus first
23 landed over here, he says, oh, we have landed in paradise.

24 But the minute he found out that we were not Christian
25 people, he called us heathens. Is that the way the court
1 structure still looks at us today?

2 If anybody refers to U.S. v. Dann, I would
3 like for that person, that entity, that government, or
4 DOE, whoever it is, to show me where Western Shoshone land
5 title was ever argued before any court system. And I say
6 any court system of the United States.

...1

7 As a Western Shoshone person, I do not want
8 this here. I don't want it here, I don't want it the next
9 valley, I don't want it down at the test site. I don't
10 want it any place.

11 Like I say, DOE and the government has to
12 find a way to neutralize all this contamination, the
13 poisoning of our bodies, not only of our bodies but the
14 poisoning of all life on this earth as we know it today.

15 I'd like to say also one more thing is that I
16 can probably say I have been jailed by the DOE personnel
17 down at the Test Site a number of times. I have a jail
18 record.

19 My little fingerprints were done, every one
20 of them. They left my toes out, though.

21 But real seriously, if you don't like
22 something that's going on, stand up. Stand up and do
23 something.

24 Even though quietly there's people around you
25 who can do your work for you. And I can say one thing. I
1 admire all of these people that's come here today. We

2 have one goal. Keep that nuclear waste out of our
3 valleys. Not only this valley, but all the other valleys.

4 Uncle Sam can spend all of that money it
5 spends down at Yucca Mountain to do something better to
6 neutralize all that, I got a good word for it but I guess
7 I shouldn't say it.

8 MR. LAWSON: Thank you.

9 MS. DANN: And I want to thank you guys for
10 listening to an old lady. A derelict.

11 (Applause.)